



# THE PROMETHEAN

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## KUWS Northern Regional Manager Considers Signing Off

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After 34 years of radio broadcasting, KUWS Northern Regional Manager Paul Damberg considers signing off from public radio. WPR is currently in transition to fill the Northern Regional Outreach Specialist position. In conjunction with WPR, the University of Wisconsin-Superior appointed Communicating Arts Sr. Lecturer Tom Hansen as Student Production Director.

“I’ve spent over 34 years working in Public Radio and non-profit fundraising,” said Damberg. “Public radio is one of the last places where one can hear what’s happening right here in our community. It is part of what brought me into public radio in the beginning.”

The Northern Regional Manager oversees and operates five stations. KUWS 91.3 and WSSU

88.5 out of Superior, Wis. WHWA 104.7 and WUWS 90.9 out of Ashland, Wis. WHSA 89.9 out of Brule, Wis. Since 2016, Damberg oversaw and managed the programming of the five stations and interfaced with the community, bringing WPR to the region and voiced community concerns back to Madison.

But Damberg got his start working in the- atrical and audio production work in high school. At the time he started his own lighting company and did disco dances. It was in college at Macalester College where Damberg found his love for public radio. After graduation, he worked at KAXE in Grand Rapids, Minn., before working long-term at KUMD as their Development Director. Despite his long tenure, Damberg was fired for not having a master’s degree 17 years in.

Damberg then switched



Since Damberg’s recovery, KUWS has renovated it’s studio spaces to be more wheelchair accessible. Between it’s three recording studios, an adjustable standing desk was installed for easier operations. Pictured, Damberg at the directing board with environment, energy, and northern Wisconsin beat Reporter Danielle Kaeding.

Photo by Drew Kerner

to Laker Superior College as the Foundation Director for six years before leaving Higher Education. Damberg then became the Foundation Director for the Human Development Center for a shorter three years.

“I then went okay. I’ve leaped from job to job, I’m going to take a little time out and make sure I find the right fit. And I really loved public radio,” said Damberg. “But at the time there

was not a position for me at UMD’s KUMD. I was looking at foundation hiring and getting in at educational institutions down in the Twin Cities. But my good friend John Munson reached out to me and said, ‘you know I’m retiring, and I can’t think of a better person than you to take over and knows the area and knows what needs to happen.’”

But in 2021 the unthinkable happened as

Damberg developed necrotizing fasciitis, a serious bacterial infection that destroys tissue under the skin. Doctors hinted that if they didn’t amputate Damberg’s leg, he wouldn’t have survived. According to the National Institute of Health, each year 20,000 people are diagnosed with necrotizing fasciitis and face a 25% survival rate. Damberg made a hard decision.

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Construction crews has been digging up the ground between Curren McNeil & Ostrander and Crownheart since April 16. The construction is the start of the Superior Choice Credit Stadium and is expected to be completed this upcoming Fall semester. See more inside on Page 4.

Photo by Promethean Staff



The UWS Mindfulness Club, Campus REC, Pruitt Center, Student Involvement, Psi Chi, HHP Club, and SWSA brought Duluth Goat Yoga to campus for their semesterly Goat Yoga event. Students had the chance to work out or relax with the dozen goats that were present.

Photo by Mikayla Swanson

If you’re interested in joining the Promethean, members meet every Tuesday at noon. For other inquiry, email [promethean@uwsuper.edu](mailto:promethean@uwsuper.edu)

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## Another Year of Tution Hikes Is Ahead

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In November, The Promethean reported that universities under the UW-System (now Wisconsin Universities) would see an increase in tuition for the first time in ten years. Each university saw an increase for 2023-24, with the average being 4.9%. WUWM 89.7 reported that the University of Wisconsin-Superior’s tuition increase was among the lowest, at 3.9%.

The Board of Regents of the Wisconsin Universities voted on April 4 to increase tuition again for the 2024-25 school year. UWS students were emailed on April 8 detailing more specific tuition rates for the upcoming fall and spring semesters. In a press release, the Board of Regents estimates that rates will

escalate by approximately 3.8% per university after room and board are taken into consideration.

Jeffrey Kahler, vice chancellor for administration and finance at UWS, sent an email stating that tuition and fees for both Wisc. Resident and non-resident full-time undergraduate students living on campus will increase by approximately \$326 annually. Room and meal plans will increase by \$243, and online undergraduate credit fees will increase by \$11 per credit.

Eligibility for the Non-resident Tuition Waiver (NTW) will not be affected, and the NTW will be increased to offset the costs of the new tuition rates. Minn. reciprocity rates are estimates, as the Wisconsin Higher Education Board will determine the reciprocity this summer. The current estimate is \$325 per year for tuition and fees for full-time Minn. undergraduate students, with Room and Meal plans also set at \$243.

Most of the Wisconsin Universities plan to increase tuition rates in specific programs. For example, UWS is raising fees and tuition for its School of Business and Economics by \$15 per credit.

Despite two years of tuition hikes, UWS remains the most affordable university in the Midwest compared to similar four-year higher learning institutions, according to an affordability report ordered by Wisconsin Universities Jay Rothman in 2022.

“Our universities are facing challenging economic realities, and students and parents should know that we plan to be good financial stewards,” Rothman said in the Wisconsin Universities press release. “Maintaining our affordability advantage, especially compared to our peers, is a priority because we want more students to get access to the unlimited opportunities our universities provide.”



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